



# Wheels Up!

CIVIL AIR PATROL • NEW YORK WING

## WING AT A GLANCE

Civilian/Military Disaster Drill

*AF Secretary Briefed on CAP/CAS*

Cadets Interview Astronaut

*Cadets Hear Tuskegee Airman*

Iraq War Pilot Visits Unit

*Flying with 109th Airlift Wing*

Recognized for Search Roles



## *Wheels Up!*

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New York Wing  
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Col. AUSTYN W. GRANVILLE Jr.

## **In the Left Seat**

### **CHANGES AND CHALLENGES**



Welcome to the 2006 Wing Conference (where this issue of *Wheels Up!* is debuting), and our information-packed sessions. Our theme is “Changes and Challenges” – which reflects the life of not only the fourth largest wing in the nation, but also one of the most active and most dedicated to excellence. We have much to be proud of as we meet the changes and challenges before us – and it couldn’t be done without the commitment and quality of people that make this a stand-out wing.

Thank you!

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*I am pleased to announce* that New York Wing is launching its first Middle School Cadet Squadron -- in Rome, NY. This is a program with awesome potential, as it reaches younger students and helps instill in them the character, motivation and skills to reach for their dreams. CNY Group Commander Maj. Thomas Carello is excited. So is the principal at Strough Middle School, where the squadron meets immediately following school. We have six excited adult leaders, led by Jeffery Crippen, a former Army helicopter pilot. Plus, we already have 50 cadet applications!

**COVER: AERONCA WAS ARMY & CAP PLANE**  
***Cadet Nick Engle of Utica Composite Squadron, recently nominated to the U.S. Naval Academy by Congressman Sherwood Boehlert, checked out a 1940s-era Aeronca at the 2003 Oneida County Air Show. The Aeronca was a World War II “forward observer” aircraft capable of short take off and landing from rough forward airstrips that were little more than pastures. At the end of the war, the Army purchased a new series of the Aeronca classic, the L-16 (shown on cover). The L-16A and L-16B moved into the National Guard and Civil Air Patrol inventories in the 1950s.***

*Photo by 1ST LT. BOB STRONACH*

## CNY CADETS PARTICIPATE IN CIVILIAN/MILITARY DISASTER DRILL

by 1st Lt MICHAEL KIELOCH

SYRACUSE, NY -- Central New York Group cadets participated in an emergency response exercise designed to test how civilian medical volunteers work with military units. The drill, held March 25-26 at the New York State Fairgrounds, paired civilian Medical Reserve Corps, firefighters and ambulance corps personnel with medical teams from both the Army and Air National Guards.

This type of live-action drill, pairing local emergency response volunteers with military units, is believed to be the first of its kind in the nation. The responders were not briefed in advance that the situation would involve a hypothetical leak of hydrogen fluoride gas, which becomes an acid upon contact with skin.

Cadets from F. R. Sussey Composite Squadron and Syracuse Composite Squadron acted as mock victims. Civilian medical personnel dressed the cadets in donated clothing and moulaged the cadets to appear like real accident victims,



***A military Haz-Mat team prepares CAP Cadet Sarah Hlavac for the decontamination shower during a joint military/civilian disaster drill in Syracuse in March. Below is Cadet Susan Dickenson.***

using fake blood and other materials. Once the simulated disaster took place, military and civilian personnel triaged the cadets and ran them through an extensive decontamination line before they were brought to the civilian medical workers for treatment.

Military medical personnel from the Air National Guard's 174th Fighter Wing coordinated much of the decontamination process. The people staffing the decontamination line were in full hazardous materials (haz-mat) suits as they washed and sanitized the cadets, and then checked them for any remaining contaminants or radiation.

Participating as mock victims were Cadets Susan Dickenson, Sarah Hlavac, Michael Weekes,

Melissa Campbell, William Coons, Kirsten Schueler, and Marshal Anthony. Senior members present included Group Commander Maj. Thomas Carello, Deputy Group Commander Capt. Carl Anthony, Group Cadet Programs Officer 1st Lt. Michael Kieloch, Group Stan/Eval Officer Capt. Grant Sussey, and Syracuse Composite Squadron Emergency Services Officer 1st Lt. George Lurye.



Photo by 1ST LT. MIKE KIELOCH

## AF SECRETARY GETS BRIEFING ON CAP/CAS

Civil Air Patrol support of the 174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing and the 274<sup>th</sup> Air Support Operations Squadron was part of the briefing that Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne received when he visited the Hancock Air National Guard Base in Syracuse on Feb. 25.

Civil Air Patrol/Close Air Support (CAP/CAS) missions have enabled candidate Joint Terminal Attack Controllers (JTACs) and Air Liaison Officers (ALOs) to receive quality training before being deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq.

A conversation between CAP Maj. Jim Edmonds, NY Wing military relations officer, and Lt. Col. Mike Wells, then-commander of 274<sup>th</sup> ASOS, blossomed into an opportunity for joint CAP and Air National Guard training, employing Central NY Group's Cessna aircraft, communications network, and air and ground teams.

"Plans were put together for the CAP/CAS concept of operations to include how the 274<sup>th</sup> ASOS would provide funding for the CAP/CAS missions and how the onboard JTAC would integrate with the



**Maj. Gen. Robert A. Knauff, Deputy Adjutant General/New York National Guard, and Congressman James T. Walsh, 25th Congressional District, listen to Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne (center) during his visit to Syracuse.**

CAP crew," reported Lt. Col. Richard Smith, 274<sup>th</sup> ASOS commander. "...One of the main benefits of having a JTAC onboard the aircraft was that we were able to provide the JTAC with a pilot's perspective of the CAS environment. This was an extremely important side benefit... Now the JTACs, who do not have a flying background, could empathize with the difficulties and limitations imposed on pilots due to ground cover, foliage, snow, and atmospheric effects like smoke and haze in the target area."

He continued: "Using...radios on the CAP frequency we are able to conduct the CAP/CAS missions in various locations around Syracuse, get our future JTACs quality mic time, minimize lost resource time in

the event of weather cancellations, and give our on-board JTACs the opportunity to see Close Air Support from the pilot's perspective. All together it makes CAP/CAS a great training opportunity for the 274<sup>th</sup> and CAP while building a working relationship between the two organizations for future operations."

Lt. Col. Smith also reported: "We have the capability to send and receive data from the CAP aircraft and ground stations within the radios' LOS range. If the CAP aircraft was called upon to perform a State mission they could provide near real-time data (pictures) to a ground unit. The possibilities are limited only by the time it would require a team from Syracuse to get to the desired target location..."

Photo by MSGT. KEVIN BRODY, 174<sup>th</sup> FW



# LI CADETS INTERVIEW ASTRONAUT BUZZ ALDRIN



*C/TSgt Steven Ervin, C/TSgt Colin Martin, Astronaut Buzz Aldrin, C/MSgt Linda Kelsey, C/SMSgt Jim Ridley*

by 1st Lt. JIM RIDLEY, SR

UNIONDALE, NY -- “That’s one small step for man... one giant leap for mankind.” With those words Astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first man to step foot on the surface of the moon on July 20, 1969. Seconds later his Lunar Module co-pilot Buzz Aldrin became the second. Last September, with the backdrop of the final Lunar Module ever built, Dr. Aldrin gave interviews to the local media including four Col. Francis S. Gabreski Squadron cadets who were there as “Kidsday Reporters” representing NY Newsday’s Kidsday Section.

Dr. Aldrin, a retired Air Force colonel, was present to sign his latest book written for children entitled “Reaching for The Moon”. It was inspired by children’s artist Wendell Minor

who contributed all the artwork for the publication. The book describes Aldrin’s NASA experience and serves to illustrate to youth that they too can dream and with hard work “reach for their own moons”. Cadets c/MSgt Linda Kelsey, c/SMSgt Jim Ridley, c/TSgt Steve Ervin and c/TSgt Colin Martin were present to ask the former astronaut questions about his life. Each was given an autographed copy of his new book. He also donated an autographed copy for the Squadron’s archives.

The event took place at Long Island’s Cradle of Aviation Museum. The Lunar Excursion Module, or LEM, which carried the two astronauts and those who followed to the moon, was built on Long Island by the Grumman Aircraft Corporation. The last module, which is on display in the museum,

never made it to the moon due to budget cuts.

Afterwards the cadets were interviewed by a local news station, News12 Long Island.

Buzz left the cadets with some good advice. “Never stop reaching for your moon, because one day you will get it.”

## LI GROUP RAISES \$13,931 FOR HURRICANE RELIEF

by 1st Lt. JAMES RIDLEY, SR.

HOLBROOK, NY -- For the second time in one year, cadet and senior members of the Long Island Group stood in front of supermarkets, store fronts and even an opening day crowd for a local youth football organization last October in order to collect money for disaster relief – this time for victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the Southern states.

LI Group hurricane relief project leader, Maj. Mike Kelly, and Group Commander Lt. Col. Norman Greenberg, presented a check for \$13,931.67 to Paul Vincent of the Salvation Army. Mr. Vincent thanked CAP for its efforts and noted: "We're there for the long haul."

Squadron 10 members collected \$11,168 of the \$13,931, which surpassed the amount the Group had collected in February 2005 for tsunami relief in Asia.

## WNY HONORS MEMBERS

A number of honors were presented at the annual Western New York Group Military Ball on Jan. 14:

- Niagara Falls Composite Squadron took top honors as the Squadron of the Year;
- 1st Lt. Barb Sease, commander of the Concord Composite Squadron, was named Senior Member of the Year;
- Lt. Col. Ron Heintz was named Staff Officer of the Year;
- Cadet NCO of the Year award went to C/ 2nd Lt. Andrew Paluch, TAK Squadron.
- The Cadet of the Year is C/ Maj. John Lewczyk, TAK Squadron.



Photo by 1st Lt. DAWN KENNEDY

### TUSKEGEE AIRMAN SPEAKS TO CADET SQUADRON

*Tuskegee Airman Col. Ed Monroe spoke to Nassau Cadet Squadron members in January. Colonel Monroe flew a Mustang P51 in World War II with the Tuskegee Airmen. He also saw action in Korea and Viet Nam. He told the cadets leadership and discipline are the keys to a good organization.*

## GROUP SETS RECORD FOR EAKER AWARDS

By Capt. SCOTT GARDNER  
ROCHESTER, NY-- The Finger Lakes Group had a record number of cadets receiving the General Ira C. Eaker award in 2005. Five cadets earned the award, promoting them to Cadet Lieutenant Colonel.

The first was Cadet Thomas Hasard of Canandaigua Composite Squadron, currently attending Rutgers University in the ROTC program.

The second, third and fourth

awardees are from Condor Composite Squadron in Perry. They are: Cadet Bradley McGinnis, a sophomore at Castile Christian Academy; Valerie Marsh, currently attending Pensacola Christian College, and Nathan King, currently a cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The last awardee, Cadet Erik Johnson of Rochester Composite Squadron, received his award on December 31 - just in time to finish the year. He is a senior at Sutherland High School in Pittsford, and he has already enlisted with the Air National Guard in Niagara Falls.



***Nassau Cadet Squadron members pose for a photo after hearing hero Air Force Capt. Kim Campbell tell her story of being shot at while flying an A-10 Warhog over Baghdad. Shown are, from left, cadets 2nd Lt. Timothy Beuth, Staff Sgt. Anthony Verde, Capt. John P. Beuth, Airman Richard Krawczyk, Air Force Capt. Kim Campbell, Senior Airman Andrew Gottstein, Maj. Herbert Hardie, Airman 1st Class Tyler Clark, Airman Craig Roth, Airman Joseph Trapal, Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Kennedy, Airman Basic Reynaldo Rodriguez and Senior Airman Andrew Solt, and Sr. Mbr. Saul Roth.***

## **MEMBERS HEAR AIR FORCE CAPT. KIM CAMPBELL**

by 1st Lt. DAWN KENNEDY

Nassau Cadet Squadron met an Air Force hero, Capt. Kim Campbell, during a squadron meeting Nov. 9. Captain

Campbell's A-10 Warhog had a large chunk blown away by enemy fire over Baghdad, making her job as a pilot tougher. Under extreme conditions, she had to use manual maneuvers to be able to safely land her jet. Captain Campbell was a former CAP cadet in the

California Wing. She achieved the rank of cadet lieutenant colonel before joining the Air Force.

Captain Campbell spent time with squadron members and answered questions about her time in the Air Force and her experience in Iraq.

## **FINGER LAKES GROUP PRESENTS AWARDS**

Finger Lakes Group held its annual awards banquet March 4, with 100 group members and guests in attendance. Group awards included:

- Cadet of the Year: C/ Capt. Colin M. Ryan.
- Cadet NCO of the Year: C/CMSgt. Joseph J. Milazzo.
- FLG Cadet of the Year

nominee to NY Wing: C/ Major Shawn M. Herrmann.

- FLG Cadet NCO of the Year nominee to New York Wing: C/CMSgt. Alexander T. Ulbright (now C/2nd Lt) .
- Senior of the Year: Captain Jeffrey A. Gleason.
- Squadron of the Year: Condor Composite Squadron.
- Most Improved Squadron: Rochester Senior Squadron.

## **LI STAGES SAR SCHOOL**

Huntington, NY -- Under the leadership of Capt. Dan Rogers, LI Group staged a Search and Rescue (SAR) school complete with practical field exercises last November. Some 40 cadets studied first aid, direction finding, basic radio communications and survival skills, then put their instruction to the test at a SAR Bivouac. They had to locate an imaginary downed aircraft, clear away a landing zone for a rescue helicopter, administer field first aid and carry a victim out of the woods.

## CENTRAL NY UNIT FLIES WITH THE 109TH AIRLIFT WING

by 2nd Lt JENNIFER HOLDREN

Sixteen members of Central New York Group's F. R. Sussey Composite Squadron joined the 109th Airlift Wing from Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia on a training mission March 15.

Air Cmdr. Maj. Danny Lincoln gave a briefing that included mission objectives, crew introductions and emergency procedures. The mission involved a training scenario for members from the 139th Aeromedical Squadron.

Cadets participated as mock victims and patients while on the four-hour flight to Ontario-London, Canada and back.

There was also an opportunity to discuss the various duties and talk with the flight crew. Major Lincoln and co-pilot Maj. Rick McKewen have both served in the military about 15 years. They have logged nearly 5000 hours as C-130 pilots.



**Cadets Hlavac and Dickenson give thumbs-up to flying.**



Photos by 1ST LT. MIKE KIELOCH

***Cadets board C-130 Aeromedical Transport at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia. Orientation flights in CAP and military aircrafts are a highlight of the CAP cadet experience.***

Lincoln has had active missions to Afghanistan and Iraq as well.

The 109th Airlift Wing performs about two flights a week. They have been to the Antarctic and were the first aero-med crew to arrive in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina.

"I really thought the approach and landing was awesome as I felt the plane and us going to the side," Cadet Sarah Hlavac said. Cadet Susan Dickenson said she "felt like a VIP walking on the tarmac and having clearance to go on the plane."

Overall, the cadets were

"psyched about the experience and thought that the view was cool," as Hlavac put it. When asked if they would want to be a part of this type of air crew, they enthusiastically said, "Yes." Hlavac would like to be the pilot.

Other participating members included: CAP Capts. Earl Holdren and Grant Sussey; CAP 1st Lt. Michael Kieloch, Senior Member Jennifer Holdren, and cadets Cody Benac, Cody Collar, Kaelyn Cromie, Holden Fenner, Timothy Jacobs, Devin LaMay, Donald Lamb, Nicholas Mercier, Robert Mortimer and Patsy Stauring.



## MEMBERS CITED FOR EFFORTS IN NJ SEARCH

New York Wing members received recognition for their efforts during a search last summer for a downed 182 Cessna in the hills of Northern New Jersey. Certificates of Appreciation from NJ Township of Hardyston were presented to a number of NY Wing members. Among them: Long Island Group Deputy E.S. Officer Capt. Daniel Rogers; Col. Francis S. Gabreski Squadron members Capt. Robert Taylor and C/2d Lt. Michael West; Central NY Group's FR Sussey Composite Squadron members Capt. James Attle, Capt. Earl Holdren, Capt. Grant Sussey, and 1st Lt Roland Pomerleau.

Under the command of Capt. Paul Ghiron of South Eastern Group, NY Wing coordinated full air operations as requested by New Jersey Search and Rescue and NJ State Police.

"This was an extremely complex air and ground Search and Rescue over difficult terrain and heavy tree cover," said Capt. Ghiron. "We coordinated eight fixed wing aircraft and two helicopters" for the better part of five days before the wreckage and body of the pilot were found.



**Cadet Brooks**

## BROOKS NAMED TOP CNY CADET

by Sr. Mbr. MEGAN G. REED

For the second year in a row, Syracuse Composite Squadron Cadet Maj. Charlise M. Brooks has been named Central New York Group Cadet of the Year.

She receives one hour in the New York Air Guard, 174th Fighter Wing's F-16C Falcon simulator as a reward.

Cadet Brooks recently completed the requirements for the Gen. Ira C. Eaker Award and will be promoted to lieutenant colonel. She is squadron cadet commander, supervising a 10-member cadet staff and a flight of some 20 cadets. Cadet Brooks is a senior at Henninger High School in Syracuse.

## CADETS LEARN HOMELAND SECURITY

BUFFALO, NY -- Members of TAK Composite Squadron and Jamestown Composite Squadron completed the Department of Homeland Security

Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness course hosted in February by the Peace Officer Training Academy, Holland, NY. It consisted of methods to recognize, avoid, identify, and report hazardous materials and chemical and biological agents.

## CADETS TAKE FIREARMS TRAINING

by 1st Lt. JAMES RIDLEY

WEST HAMPTON, NY -- Cadets often use demilitarized or parade rifles while marching in color guards, but a group of cadets from the Col. Francis S. Gabreski Squadron and Suffolk County Squadron 10 took advantage of an opportunity last fall to learn firearms safety as well as the chance to earn marksmanship badges.

Some 13 Gabreski cadets and a senior member, as well as a Suffolk cadet and two senior members, participated in a two-phase educational program sponsored by the National Rifle Association and administered by Major Jack Ozer, CAP, a sergeant in the Suffolk County Police Department. Following classroom instruction, all the cadets qualified on 22 calibre rifles at the police firing range for badges ranging from marksman to sharpshooter.

## 2005 WING CONFERENCE AWARDS

- Group of the Year: Finger Lakes Group
- Senior Chaplain of the Year: Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John T. Kelly, NYW.
- Squadron Chaplain of the Year: Chaplain (Lt Col) Kenneth D. Wood, WNY.
- Moral Leadership Officer of the Year: 1st Lt Christopher E. Koskinen, MEG.
- Squadron of Distinction – Schenectady Composite Squadron, MEG.
- Cadet Program Officer of Year: Lt. Col. David R. Hunter, FLG.
- Cadet NCO of Year - C/SMSGT Natasha Cohen, SEG.
- Cadet of Year: C/Maj Thomas E. Hasard, FLG.
- Most Cadet Orientation Flights: So. Central Group.
- Wing Staff Officer of Year: Lt. Col. Edward V. LeFeber, NYW.
- Communicator of Year: 2nd Lt. Anthony J. Cioffi, CMG.
- Outstanding ES Program: New York City Group.
- Check Pilot of Year: Lt.Col. James H. Pierson, FLG.
- Aerospace Officer of Year: Capt Richard C. Lauricella, CNY.
- Senior Member of Year: Lt. Col. Leslie Mendez, SEG.
- Inspector of Year: Capt Eric L. Steinberg, SEG.
- Public Affairs Officer of Year: Capt. Scott A. Gardner, FLG.
- Safety Officer of Year: 1st Lt. Chris A. Pascuzzo, FLG.
- Aerospace Display Award: New York City Group.
- Safety Poster Award: Vedder Composite Squadron, MEG.



**Col. Austyn Granville Jr., center, presents Group of Year award to Finger Lakes Group Commander Lt. Col. Diane Wojtowicz and Group Deputy Commander Lt. Col. David Hunter.**



**Cadet of Year Thomas Hasard.**



**Senior Member of Year Lt. Col. Leslie Mendez.**



**Col. Austyn Granville with then-Brig. Gen. Tony Pineda, now major general and national commander.**



**BATTLE OF COLORS: Then Northeast Region Commander Col. Richard Greenhut and Wing Commander Col. Austyn Granville vie for most colorful shirt.**

## MEMBERS FILL NEW ROLES AT GROUP AND WING LEVEL

Wing Commander Col. Austyn W. Granville Jr. announced a number of staff assignments in February.

The new appointments:

Captain KEVIN BARRY has assumed command of the Catskill Mountain Group from Major Lawrence Model. Major Model has joined the Wing Staff as a Deputy Inspector General.

Lt. Col. ANITA MARTIN has assumed command of the Mid-Eastern Group from Captain Timothy Holteen, who held the position for over four years, and from Lt. Col. Ronald Volungus, who was the interim Group Commander until Colonel Martin could step in.



Maj. GEORGE FILLGROVE has assumed command of the Western NY Group from Lt. Col. Charlie Jones.

Chaplain (Lt Col) JOHN KELLY has assumed the role



of Wing Chaplain from Chaplain (Lt Col) Van Don Williams, who is now the Northeast Region Chaplain.

Chaplain (Captain) LEROY WOODS has joined Wing Staff as the Wing Deputy Chaplain (East), filling Chaplain Kelly's former position.

Captain RICHARD LAURICELLA of Central NY Group has joined Wing Staff in an ADY position as the Wing External Aerospace Officer, replacing Maj. George Fillgrove.

Major PAUL GHIRON of South Eastern Group has joined Wing Staff in an ADY position as the Primary Alerting Officer for ES Missions, succeeding Lt. Col. Bill Hughes.

1st Lt MICHAEL HEATH of South Eastern Group has joined the Wing Communications staff in an ADY position as CEMS Manager, responsible for tracking and inventorying all of the communications equipment assigned to the Wing.

Captain DANIEL ROGERS of Long Island Group has joined the Wing Communications Staff as the Wing Communications Training Officer.

Captain GEORGE NORREN of Long Island Group has joined Wing Staff as the Standards and Evaluation Officer, succeeding Lt. Col. Rollie Zavada, who continues on Wing Staff as an advisor.

Lt. Col. CHARLES

O'NEILL has joined the DOV staff as Standards/Evaluation Officer advisor with emphasis on FAA rules and regulations.

Capt. ANDREW LIDDLE has been reassigned to the position of Government Relations Advisor, formerly held by Lt. Col. Randy Johnson. COLONEL JOHNSON will replace Captain Liddle in his former role as the State Advisor. 2nd Lt. RAY DONNELLY, formerly of Long Island Group, will continue to serve on the GRA staff for Federal affairs.

Senior Member DANA BELCHER has joined Wing Staff as the Wing Legal Officer.

Captain ELLIE TAM has joined the Wing Historical staff as an assistant to the Wing Historian, Major Peter Turecek.

## CADETS TAKE RIDE ON CRASH TRUCKS

by 1st Lt. DAWN KENNEDY

Nassau Cadet Squadron members spent Dec. 3 with the Port Authority Police Dept of LaGuardia Airport, N.Y. Cadets were given rides on the crash trucks, and were amazed at how fast the vehicles drove on the airport runway. When the cadets arrived back at the garage, they were able to get inside each emergency vehicle, including a task force truck and a terrorist flat bed truck.

# NEW YORK WING IN ACTION

photo by J. SAGER



**BACK FROM IRAQ**  
Niagara Falls Composite Squadron member Robyn Murray received the NY State Medal for Merit after spending a year in Iraq as an Army Reserve Civil Affairs specialist.

**LEGISLATIVE UNIT**  
Assemblyman Dave Townsend, right, (R,C,I,WF-Kirkland) received an appointment as a major in the New York Legislative Squadron. Col. Austyn W. Granville Jr., wing commander, left, and Capt. Andy Little, wing government relations officer, presented Townsend with the certificate of membership.



photo by MAJ. LOU FENECH



## CADETS PAY RESPECTS

Color guard members of Long Island Group's Col. Francis S. Gabreski Squadron paid respects to fallen servicemen and women at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. They also visited the Korean War Veterans Memorial. The cadets proceeded in formation through crowds of visitors, stopping at the center of each monument and rendering honors. People around them joined the impromptu ceremony. This display of respect was appreciated by many veterans and active military visiting the memorials -- by 1st Lt. James Ridley